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AGRE-00 PA-01 NASA-01 EB-08 FAA-00 DOTE-00 /075 W
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E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS:SNAR/MEX
SUBJECT: GOM ERADICATION AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY REPORT,
JUNE 26-JULY 2, AND FIELD OPERATIONS THROUGH JULY 7, 1978.

1. GOM ERADICATION AND ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS FOR THE 26TH
WEEK OF 1978 ARE OUTLINED BELOW. FIGURES IN PARENTHESES
REFLECT CUMULATIVE TOTAL EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1977.

A. ERADICATION JUNE 26 - JULY 2, 1978

ZONES	5 - 9	3 - 4	1 - 2	TOTAL
A. POPPY FIELDS	6	0	6	12(15,443)
B. HECTARES	.434	0	.0122	.45 (2358)
C. MARIHUANA FIELDS	142	4	38	184 (2763)
D. HECTARES	10.28	.19	4.64	15.11 (492)
E. MIXED FIELDS	0	0	0	0 (113)
F. HECTARES	0	0	0	0 (18)

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B. ENFORCEMENT JUNE 26 - JULY 2, 1978

	TOTAL THIS PERIOD	CUMULATIVE
A. KG. HEROIN	.187	77.268
B. KG. OPIUM	.110	290.867
C. KG. OPIUM SEED	1.500	77.386

D. HEROIN LABS	0	13
E. HASHISH/MARIHUANA LAB	0	2
F. KG. COCAINE	.027	45.52
G. KG. MARIHUANA	6,817	359,478
H. KG. MARIHUANA SEED	24.040	1,642.762
I. KG. HASHISH	4	63.875
J. LITERS HASHISH OIL	0	.250
K. KG. PEYOTE	0	11.85
L. DU DANGEROUS DRUGS	4,000	1,612,765
M. ARREST MEXICANS	82	2,541
N. ARREST U.S.	2	89
O. ARREST OTHERS	0	28
P. VEHICLES	12	399
Q. WEAPONS	11	869
R. AMMUNITIONS	167	35,997
S. PESOS	4,390	3,069,568.00
T. DOLLARS	0	74,117.00
U. AIRCRAFT	1	30
V. VESSELS	0	1

2. ERADICATION STATISTICS FOR THE 26TH WEEK OF 1978 HAVE BEEN COMPARED WITH THOSE FOR THE SAME PERIOD IN 1977. TWELVE (12) POPPY FIELDS COVERING .45 HECTARES WERE DESTROYED DURING THE 26TH WEEK OF 1978, WHEREAS 5 POPPY FIELDS COVERING .23 HECTARES WERE DESTROYED DURING THE SAME PERIOD IN 1977. MORE MARIHUANA CONTINUES TO BE DESTROYED DURING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THIS PERIOD AS REFLECTED IN 1977 AND 1978 ERADICATION DATA.

3. FIELD OPERATIONS:

A. ZONE 01: OAXACA: COLOR AND DEFOLIANT TESTS IN THE FIELD: FORD AND AROS RESUMED TESTING WITH LIQUID RHODAMINE-B AND A NEW MIXTURE OF LOCALLY PRODUCED DEFOLIANT TO ACCELERATE THE PROCESS OF STRIPPING LEAVES FROM THE STEMS. THE LATTER TESTING WAS APPROVED BY AG EXECUTIVE OFFICER BAEZA AFTER HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE RETARDATION OF THE HERBICIDE CAUSED BY LACK OF DIRECT SUNLIGHT. THE RHODAMINE-B LIQUID CONCENTRATE TESTS ARE MOST ENCOURAGING. ALTHOUGH WEATHER CONDITIONS WERE ADVERSE, THE RESIDUAL REDDISH COLOR ON THE FOLIAGE IS HIGHLY DISCERNIBLE TO THE EYE. A SIMPLE WASH AND RINSE TEST IN THE FIELD REVEALED THAT MARIHUANA PLANTS WHICH APPEARED TO HAVE A MINIMAL AMOUNT OF RHODAMINE-B WOULD CAUSE THE CLEAR WATER TO ACQUIRE REDDISH TONE. SINCE THE DEFOLIANT DID NOT ARRIVE UNTIL JULY 5, EMBASSY DOES NOT HAVE INFORMATION ON THE USE OF THE DEFOLIANT MIXTURE; HOWEVER, FORD IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO MEXICO CITY THIS WEEKEND.

B. FIELD TRIP TO OAXACA BY NATIONAL CAMPAIGN COORDINATOR:
DEPUTY AG ALBA LEYVA, ACCOMPANIED BY NATIONAL SUPERVISOR
FOR COORDINATORS AGUILAR GARZA, AERO SERVICES CHIEF HERNANDEZ
RUIZ, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION MANCERA SUAREZ, AND SENIOR
AVIATION CONSULTANT MARISCAL FLORES, FLEW TO OAXACA TO
INSPECT THE SITES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE ADVANCE BASE AND
THE HANGER FACILITY FOR THE ZONE. THE PREVIOUS WEEK DEPUTY
AG ALBA LEYVA TRAVELED TO ZONE 06 (CULIACAN), ZONE 08
(TIJUANA), AND ZONE 09 (HERMOSILLO). THE EXTENSIVE TRAVEL
PERFORMED BY ALBA LEYVA SUBSTANTIATES RECENT COMMENTS BY

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BAEZA TO EMBASSY OFFICER ON THE AG'S INSTRUCTIONS AS
PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. ON JULY 7, EMBASSY OFFICER WAS
INFORMED BY DEPUTY AG'S OFFICE THAT ALBA LEYVA RETURNED TO
TIJUANA AND WAS NOT DUE BACK TO MEXICO CITY UNTIL MIDDLE
OF FOLLOWING WEEK.

C. MEDIA COVERAGE ON FIELD TESTS: EXECUTIVE OFFICER BAEZA
AND HIS SPECIAL ASSISTANT DR. YANEZ COORDINATED EXTENSIVE
NBC-TV COVERAGE OF THE FIELD TESTS, IN OAXACA. THEY
TERMINATED THE SERIES WITH TAPED INTERVIEWS IN MEXICO CITY
DESIGNED TO COMPLEMENT THE COVERAGE FOR U.S. TV PRESENTATION.

D. REACTION BY CAMPESINOS TO COLOR SPRAYING OPERATIONS:
THE REACTIONS ARE DIVIDED INTO TWO CATEGORIES; I.E., THE
LEGITIMATE FARMERS WHO PROTECT THEIR CROPS AND THE ILLICIT
FARMERS WHO CULTIVATE NARCOTICS RELATED CROPS. THERE ARE
NUMEROUS CASES WHEREBY THE LEGITIMATE FARMERS HAVE RESORTED

TO MARKING THEIR FIELDS TO ALERT THE AG PILOTS ON THE TYPE OF CROPS IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY. CONVERSELY, SOME CULTIVATORS HAVE ATTEMPTED TO WASH OFF THE SPRAYED MARIHUANA AND IN SOME CASES ABANDONED THE CUT MARIHUANA IN THE FIELD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN DESPAIR OVER THE PERSISTENCY OF THE RED COLOR. THERE ARE ALSO INSTANCES WHEREBY CAMPESINOS HAVE DUG FOXHOLES IN THE FIELDS TO ESCAPE DETECTION IN ORDER TO RETURN TO THEIR RINSING AND HARVESTING CHORES IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE SPRAY SHIPS ARE OUT OF SIGHT. SENIOR AG STAFF AND MILITARY OFFICERS ARE AWARE OF THE AFOREMENTIONED DEVELOPMENTS BUT DO NOT FEEL THE REACTION IS GENERAL OR HAS REACHED A SIGNIFICANT LEVEL.

E. MILITARY COORDINATION: THE 28TH MILITARY ZONE IS HEAD-QUARTERED IN THE CITY OF OAXACA AND MAINTAINS CONTINUOUS CONTACT WITH THE AG ZONE COORDINATOR THROUGH CAPTAIN AGUILA ROMERO OF THE MEXICAN ARMY WHO IS THE FULLTIME LIAISON OFFICER FOR THE ERADICATION CAMPAIGN. CAPTAIN AGUILA ROMERO INFORMED EMBASSY FIELD SUPPORT ADVISOR THAT MILITARY PRESENCE THROUGHOUT THE ZONE WOULD BE MORE EFFECTIVE IF THEY HAD RELIABLE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND COULD BE MORE MOBILE EITHER THROUGH LAND OR AIR TRANSPORT. HE CONFIRMED THAT MEXICAN AIR FORCE DOES NOT PROVIDE THEM ANY AIR MOBILITY IN THE FIELD AS THEY RELY ON AG AERO SERVICES WHENEVER AVAILABLE FOR THEIR TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS SUPPORT.

4. TECHNICAL SUPPORT:

A. E-SYSTEMS CONTRACT: EMBASSY RECEIVED COPIES OF THE CHECK AND DEPOSIT SLIP WHICH SUPPORT ACTION TAKEN BY EXECUTIVE OFFICER BAEZA THE DAY AFTER HE INSTRUCTED HIS SENIOR STAFF TO REIMBURSE THE E-SYSTEMS ACCOUNT FOR THE AMOUNT OF PROCUREMENTS ALLOWED BY THE JOINT GROUP UNDER CLAUSE 7 OF THE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT. WILLIAMS WAS INSTRUCTED TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER FULLY WHILE IN WASHINGTON TO OBTAIN A CONSENSUS ON A POSSIBLE AMENDMENT TO THE PRESENT CONTRACT FOR CLARIFICATION.

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B. NASA PROJECT: AG OFFICE GROUP COMMENTED TO EMBASSY OFFICER ON THE POSITIVE RESULTS OF THEIR TRIP TO THE EARTH RESOURCES LABORATORY (ERL) TO DEVELOP SELECTION CRITERIA FOR RECRUITMENT OF PROJECT RELATED TECHNICIANS. CHIEF OF

AG TRAINING INSTITUTE NOTIFIED EMBASSY THEY ARE ALREADY SCREENING APPLICANTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MEXICO AND THE TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE. SINCE DETENAL DEPUTY DIRECTOR VILLASANA WAS UNABLE TO ACCOMPANY THE FIRST GROUP TO ERL, EMBASSY OFFICER CONVINCED HIM TO MAKE THE TRIP AND INVITE BAEZA SO THEY COULD SPEND SOME TIME TOGETHER AND CONDITION BAEZA ON THE TECHNICAL IMPLICATIONS AND RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS ON THE DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM. THE SECOND GOM GROUP DEPARTED FOR ERL ON JULY 6. IN ADDITION TO BAEZA AND VILLASANA, THE GROUP INCLUDED THE DIRECTOR OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND A REPRESENTATIVE FROM PROGRAMACION Y PRESUPUESTO (OMB EQUIVALENT).

C. MAINTENANCE: THE FIRST FORMAL E-SYSTEMS CONDUCTED CLASSROOM TRAINING COURSE WAS COMPLETED SATISFACTORILY. THE TWO WEEK COURSE COVERED THE CESSNA 206 AIRCRAFT FAMILIARIZATION, ENGINE AND SYSTEMS. A TOTAL OF 18 TRAINEES ATTENDED THE COURSE, PASSED ALL EXAMINATIONS, AND DAILY ATTENDANCE AT SESSIONS WAS EXCELLENT. THE TRAINEES HAVE ASSUMED LINE FUNCTIONS AT MEXICO CITY BASE UNDER SUPERVISION FOR ON-THE-JOB TRAINING. KARMAN ASSUMED ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES RELATED TO THE E-SYSTEMS CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION.

D. TELECOMMUNICATIONS: EMBASSY TECHNICAL ADVISORY STAFF ENTERED INTO DISCUSSIONS WITH THEIR COUNTERPARTS TO EVALUATE THE TRAINING COURSES CONDUCTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION TRAINING CENTER (CIAAC) FOR RADIO OPERATORS. THE COURSE IS APPROVED BY THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS, CONSISTS OF 210 HOURS OF CLASSROOM AND TECHNICAL TRAINING, AND IS MODERATELY PRICED TO HANDLE GROUPS OF TEN TRAINEES. NAU PRESENTLY CONSIDERING FUNDING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE COURSE FROM PROJECT SUPPORT PORTION OF THE TELECOM FUNDS.

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E. FLIGHT OPERATIONS: (1) THE FLIGHT FOLLOWING CENTER IS PROGRESSING BUT AT A PACE NOT COMPATIBLE WITH THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS DEVELOPED TO COVER THE CALL PERSONNEL SERVICES OF ENGINEER LLITERAS UNDER THE E-SYSTEMS CONTRACT. CARSON HAS INDICATED AN EXTENSION OF HIS TDY MAY BE NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE CENTER.

(2) LOSS OF PILOTS: DURING A LENGTHY BREAKFAST SESSION WITH BAEZA AND HIS SENIOR AVIATION STAFF TO DISCUSS THE AVIATION REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO THE AGREEMENTS PENDING APPROVAL BY THE DEPARTMENT, EMBASSY OFFICER AND TECHNICAL STAFF BROACHED THE SUBJECT OF PILOT RETENTION WHICH IS REACHING CRITICAL PROPORTIONS DUE TO THE INCESSANT POACHING OF QUALIFIED HELICOPTER PILOTS BY BOTH GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR AGENCIES. FROM A TOTAL OF 12 ROTARY WING PILOTS WHO HAVE RESIGNED, AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS REPRESENT HIGHLY EXPERIENCED AND HIGHLY QUALIFIED PERSONNEL. DISCUSSIONS CENTERED ON PROPOSALS TO INCREASE BENEFITS AND REMUNERATION FOR INCENTIVES AS OPPOSED TO SALARY INCREASES WHICH WOULD CAUSE BAEZA A PROBLEM WITH THE LOCAL UNION DUE TO INEQUITABLE PAY FOR OTHER PROFESSIONAL RANKS.
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EMBASSY OFFICER INDICATED ADDITIONAL FUNDS COULD BE CONSIDERED TO AUGMENT THE PRESENT SALARY SUPPLEMENT LEVELS AS IMMEDIATE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM. COINCIDENTALLY, THE SOUTHLAND HELICOPTER PRESIDENT PAID A VISIT TO EMBASSY ON JULY 7, AND INDICATED THE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE OF THE FIRST AND SECOND GROUP OF AG PILOT TRAINEES AT THEIR FACILITY IN LONG BEACH. THEY EXPECT TO GRADUATE THE FIRST GROUP OF NINE FAA-LICENSED ROTARY WING PILOTS BY THE END OF JULY AND EXPECT TO HAVE TRAINED THE ENTIRE GROUP OF 25 PILOTS BY THE END OF CY 78.

(3) ON-THE-JOB TRAINING FOR PILOTS: EMBASSY NARCOTICS ADVISOR WITNESSED THE WRITTEN AND PRACTICAL TESTS CONDUCTED BY INSTRUCTOR PILOT CAPTAIN PARTIDA FOR THE ROTARY WING PILOTS ASSIGNED TO ZONE 01 IN OAXACA DURING HIS RECENT

TDY. AROS COMMENTED ON THE PROFESSIONAL ATTITUDE OF THE
INSTRUCTOR WITH A NO-NONSENSE OR BUDDY APPROACH TO HIS
ACTIVITIES. THOMPSON. LUCEY

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